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Particular attention will be paid to statistics relating to military service. The number of soldiers, sailors, marines, and officers in the Civil War and Spanish-American War will be ascertained, and the facts as to how many are drawing United States pensions. Besides this information, the ages, occupations, nationalities, etc., of the members of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia will be obtained.

The inquiries to be made of females are, in most respects, the same as those for males, but the schedule for females contains a few special questions. Among these is one calling for the number of years married, and a series of inquiries which will show the relative fecundity by nationalities, ages, color and race, occupations of husbands, etc.

In 1895 the census series comprised seven volumes, aggregating more than 5,000 printed pages. That for 1905 will consist of but three volumes, containing not more than 2,000 pages. The sociological monographs will be printed as parts of the Bureau Report or in the Labor Bulletin, thus securing a wider circulation of the information, at a greatly reduced expense to the State.

CHARLES F. PIDGIN.

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#### A SOCIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION.

*The Sociology of a New York City Block.* By Thomas Jesse Jones, B.D., Ph.D. Published as Vol. XXI, No. 2, of the *Studies in History, Economics, and Public Law*, edited by the Faculty of Political Science, Columbia University. New York, 1904. 133 pp. Price \$1.

In the opening chapter the author states that the primary aim of this study is distinctly sociological. He maintains that too many of the so-called sociological investigations, while presenting masses of information, have proved of small value because they were based on no definite system of sociology. Accordingly, he has in this instance gathered data purposely "to substantiate or overthrow certain theories as to the manner in which well-known social forces work themselves out." By this method of research he hopes for "results of permanent scientific value."

The author has selected as a basis for his systematic study the population of a particular tenement-house block on the upper East Side of New York. In this block there are fourteen five-story "double-decker" or "dumb-bell" tenements which are so constructed as to provide accommodations for four families on each floor. The population of the entire block of fourteen houses varies from eight hundred

to nine hundred souls, divided among two hundred families. This dense aggregation of persons consists largely of Jews and Italians who are struggling for numerical supremacy, while Bohemians, Greeks, Americans, and negroes in smaller numbers also figure in the population.

Three systematic visitations of all the families were made, the first in 1897, the second in 1899, and the third in 1900-01, and since then the street has been irregularly observed. Having ascertained the desired information, the author then proceeds to locate each family in a scheme of mental and moral types, observing successively its motor reactions, type of intellect, type of character, and particular traits of character. In this method he admittedly follows "the analysis and theory of Giddings' *Inductive Sociology*." The results of the classification of families appear in the chapters following the second. The expressive titles of these chapters—like Behavior, Motives and Methods of Conduct, Appreciation, Types, Practical Resemblances, Consciousness of Kind, Concerted Volition, Social Organization, and Social Welfare—show in outline the order in which the facts have been applied to theories in question. The conclusions which have been arrived at under each consideration are based, it is true, upon the observation of a comparatively small group of persons, but the thesis is of decided value, furnishing as it does an excellent example of a real laboratory method of sociological research. Furthermore, the intimate and painstaking manner in which the data have been collected shows a degree of refinement in research which could hardly be approached in official investigations, and it will probably be many years before material officially obtained will concern itself with the psychological and moral characteristics of a block population.

It should, however, be noted in this connection that in the Massachusetts Census for 1905 the Statistics of Population for the City of Boston are to be collected and presented by assessors' blocks, thus affording valuable material for more minute study of significant city areas than was heretofore available. In view of the probability that henceforth official statistics are to be presented with increasing regard for small city areas, local studies similar to this under review may be made in more fruitful fields, and, being based on authoritative figures, may find larger acceptance, not only among theorists, but also among practical men of affairs.

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